Dr. A. R. Menon.—I oppose the statement. We are only for a committee of three Members as the Hon'ble Member has mentioned before.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I shall explain how this occurred, Sir. Originally we were only for three Members, but some were of opinion that five would be much better. I am quite satisfied with two Members and myself. If the Hon'ble Members are not anxious, as I suggested, we shall reduce the number to three. Even then we can do the work satisfactorily within twelve months.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—I am not anxious, I withdraw.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanaha Ayyar.—I too am not very anxious about it. I withdraw.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—I too am not very anxious.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Then why should you have Members who are not very anxious?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—I am not anxious, but I am ready to serve the country in whatever capacity I am called to do so.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I beg to second it, Sir.

Motions put and agreed to.

6. Consideration of the Finance Committee Report.

President.—Resolution No. 6.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Sir, I withdraw.

Hence the following resolution was considered withdrawn:—

"This House recommends to the Government that, in view of the very short time the members are afforded for the study of the report submitted by the Special Finance Committee and also because of the complexity of the matters contained therein, the discussion of the report may be postponed to another date and not held during this forthcoming budget session."

7. Economic Development Committee.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—"This Council strongly recommends to the Government that, for the economic development of the State, a committee with a non-official majority be appointed to draw up a programme of irrigation works to be undertaken in the near future."

I formally move this resolution. This was talked out in this House several times during the last Legislative Council. Government opposed it but it was carried unanimously by all the non-official Members. Then again, Government vetoed it. So I am not going to make a long speech. Before proceeding, I want to know the attitude of the Government regarding this.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—I beg to second it.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I rise to oppose this motion.

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Dr. A. R. Menon.—He wanted to know what the attitude of the Government is.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—When I say I am against the motion, I should not be understood as if I belittle non-official opinion in a thing of this sort.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Since I am made to understand that Government has not changed its mentality regarding irrigation, I am not going to press it to a division and so I withdraw the resolution.

(*The resolution was withdrawn with leave.*)

8. Anti-malarial Campaign in the State.

President.—Resolution No. 8.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—The resolution standing in my name runs thus:—

"*That this Council recommends to the Government that immediate steps be taken for a well-planned and systematic anti-malarial campaign in the State.*"

Sir, it does not require any speech from me for your acceptance of the resolution. When I represented to the House on a former occasion that Major Sir Ronald Ross should be got down, to consider ways and means to eradicate the scourge, the Government made the Chief Medical Officer say that for a small State like Cochin, it was a big affair and should not be thought of. But we have been informed that the disease was wiped out of the peninsula of Malaya and Singapore. What Malaya and Singapore have done, we can surely do, if we so mind. Our State is not so poor as to find funds for getting rid of the disease. That malaria is a scourge which, if not radically wiped out, would undermine the vitality of the population and render it unfit for work at an early stage is a notorious fact. Equally well-known is the fact that this disease can completely be eradicated by an organised anti-malarial campaign (so recommends the Malaria Commission).

Sir, you are not satisfied with all the comforts you at present have in the town. Not contended with the amenities of town life that you now have, you intend spending big sums to make it more luxurious. Please consider for a moment a figure with bloated belly, sunken eyes, swollen out cheeks, emaciated chest,—so emaciated that you could see the palpitation of the heart with your naked eyes—lean, neither limbs scarcely strong to support the body. Then you will come to realise what the position will be. I do not think there is anybody in this House so bereft of the milk of human kindness in his vein as not to think of lending a helping hand to these wasting human beings. Of all the people, the major portion who are affected by this are the depressed classes. If you do not take up the work in hand

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